

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

USSR

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SUBJECT

1. Concentration Camps
2. Munitions Factories

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Onega Camp (west and southwest of Arkhangel): In the Onega River region there are about 120 concentration camps in the forests.

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[REDACTED] the camps employed about 220,000 exiles, chiefly in lumbering, in 1942. The region through which the camps are scattered constitutes about 120,000 square kilometers, covered with forests and lakes. The lumber camps are along the banks of the Onega River. The central office of the Onega camp is in the town of Plesetsk, on the railroad line from Moscow to Arkhangel, about 260 kilometers south of Arkhangel.

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Powder Factory near Puka: Among the 120 branches of the Onega camp, the largest and most important is No. 6, which lies 30 kilometers south of Plesetsk and about 18 kilometers south of the little railroad station of Puka. [REDACTED] a powder factory is built on the railroad line, but that the region is wooded and he cannot determine its position exactly. In 1942, about 1,200 workmen were employed in this factory. Of these, 500 were salaried workers and the rest were taken from the surrounding concentration camps. The salaried employees worked inside the factory as technicians, while the others performed various services, such as transporting wood and sulphur. No contact was permitted between the technicians and the workers from the concentration camps.

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Izhevsk Camp, Udmurt ASSR: In the Izhevsk region there are about 100 camps scattered in the wooded areas. The exiles there are chiefly occupied in cutting timber, which is milled in Izhevsk. Izhevsk has a total of 80 war factories, numbered from 1 to 80. Various weapons are manufactured there, including cannon, machine guns, and rifles. [REDACTED] various armament factories in Izhevsk.) The work in these war factories is performed by technical specialists, but every day workers are sent from the camps to perform menial tasks.

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Factory No. 72, Izhevsk: This factory is very large and has many divisions. It manufactures machine guns, rifles, cannon, motorcycles, bayonets, and shotguns. [redacted] not know exactly the type of rifles produced, but the diameter of the bore was about 7 mm. The diameter of the cannon bore was about 120 mm., and the length of the barrel was about 2 1/2 meters. The cannon were mounted on two steel wheels. The motorcycles were of German type and were constructed in a section of the factory which was equipped with installations brought from Germany. The technical personnel of this factory in 1946 numbered 5,000 - 6,000 men. Every day about 500 prisoners were sent to the factory from the surrounding camps. In 1946, in the machine gun division of factory No. 72 there was a powder explosion which destroyed many machine tools. The tools were hastily replaced by others brought from Germany. The pay of the technical employees ranged from 120 to 600 rubles a month. Work went on twenty-four hours a day in three shifts.

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